CLAIMS

1. A method of operating a portable communication device, comprising the steps of:

detecting a communication uplink change;

determining whether said communication uplink change is practicable; and

permitting said communication uplink change if said communication uplink change is determined by the portable communication device to be practicable.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of detecting a communication uplink change includes detecting an uplink allocation change event.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of detecting an uplink allocation change event includes detecting an event requesting a time slot characteristic change.

4. The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of detecting an uplink allocation change event includes detecting an event requesting a change in the number of channel codes.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of detecting an uplink change event includes detecting a power change request.

6. The method according to claim 1, further including the step of monitoring uplink performance.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein said step of monitoring uplink performance further includes determining whether the portable communication device is in a data mode, a voice mode, or a data and voice mode, and said step of permitting said uplink communication change includes permitting a higher data throughput capacity in a data only mode.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein said step of monitoring includes monitoring data throughput capacity.

9. The method according to claim 1, further including the step of detecting a near-field mass and limiting data throughput when detecting proximity to the near-field mass.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining whether said communication uplink change is practicable includes detecting whether said communication uplink change will cause an uplink resource limit to be exceeded.

11. The method according to claim 1, further including the step of evaluating alternatives if said uplink change event is not practicable.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein said step of evaluating alternatives includes evaluating feasibility of decreasing power and increasing data throughput capacity.

13. The method according to claim 11, wherein said step of evaluating alternatives includes evaluating feasibility of decreasing data throughput capacity and increasing power.

14. The method according to claim 11, wherein said step of evaluating alternatives includes evaluating as alternatives to increasing power making no change; requesting handoff to another link; and reducing data throughput capacity.

15. The method according to 11, wherein said step of evaluating alternatives includes evaluating as alternatives to increasing data throughput capacity making no change and requesting hand-off to a better communication link.

16. A portable communication device, comprising:

a transceiver; and

a controller coupled to said transceiver, said controller operable to respond to a channel uplink change event to determine whether an uplink change resulting from said channel uplink change event is practicable, and to permit said uplink change if said uplink change is practicable, and to evaluate alternatives.

17. The portable communication device as defined in claim 16, wherein said controller is operable to request an increase in an uplink allocation.

18. The portable communication device as defined in claim 16, wherein said controller is operable to receive a power change request, and is responsive to said power change request to request a change in data throughput if said power change request exceeds a setting limit.

19. The portable communication device as defined in claim 16, further including a link monitor.

20. A method of operating a network to communicate with at least one portable communication device, the method comprising the steps of:

determining that a portable communication device requires a power change;

transmitting to the portable communication device a power change request;

receiving from the portable communication device a response to said power change request comprising an uplink allocation change; and

transmitting an updated uplink channel allocation if available.

21. The method as defined in claim 20, wherein said step of transmitting an updated uplink channel allocation includes terminating a data resource to support a voice only mode.

22. The method as defined in claim 20, further including the step of retransmitting a power change request upon transmitting said updated uplink channel allocation.

23. The method as defined in claim 20, further including the step of participating in a hand-off procedure to a better communication link if a decrease in channel allocation is required to support a higher uplink transmit power.

24. A network, comprising:

a transceiver to transmit to a portable communication device a power change request and to receive from the portable communication device an updated allocation associated with said power change request; and

a controller coupled to said transceiver, the controller operable to control transmission of said updated allocation assignment if available and to control retransmission of said power change request upon transmitting said updated allocation.